



HEAD SUPPORT DEVICE AND DISK DRIVE USING THE SAME

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

[0001] The present invention relates to a head support device, which supports a head and moves the head to a target position above a data-bearing surface of a disk for positioning. The invention also relates to a disk drive with a floating head, such as a magnetic disk drive, an optical disk drive or a magneto-optical disk drive, which uses the head support device and finds use as a recording/reproducing apparatus in a computer or the like.

2. Background Art

[0002] A disk recording/reproducing apparatus (hereinafter referred to as "disk drive") such as a hard disk drive (HDD) uses a head to record and reproduce data on and from a data-bearing surface of a disk, which is a recording medium. The HDD is provided with a head support device, whereby the head is supported in floating condition at a specified distance from the data-bearing surface of the disk and moves radially above the disk. Including this structure, many structures have been proposed (refer to, for example, Japanese Patent Unexamined Publication No. 09-082052).

[0003] With reference to FIGS. 7 and 8, a head support device of a magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus such as the HDD is described hereinafter as an example of the head support device of the conventional disk drive with the floating head. FIG. 7 is a plan view of an essential part of the magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus, and FIG. 8 is a perspective view of the head support device.

[0004] In FIG. 7, head support device 81 is constructed of support arm 82